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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. VI.

JULY—DECEMBER, 1857.

No. 58.

Special Meeting, July 3.

Present, fifty-two members.

Prof. CRESSON, Vice-President, in the Chair.

The resolution adopted at the last stated meeting of the Society, directing a special meeting to be called for this evening, was read.

The object of the present meeting was stated to be the consideration of the motion offered at last meeting by Prof. Frazer, to repeal the resolutions adopted on the 29th of May last, authorizing the purchase of the Spring Garden Hall, provided such purchase can be made on terms advantageous to the Society.

The subject having been considered and debated, the question on the motion to repeal the resolutions was taken by *yeas* and *nays*; the yeas being 26, and the nays 26: so the motion to repeal was not agreed to.

Stated Meeting, July 17.

Present, seven members.

Judge KANE, President, in the Chair.

A letter was read from Tobias Wagner, dated Geneva, June 11, 1857, in relation to astronomical observations recently made at Rome by P. A. Secchi, and also announcing a donation for the library.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

- Annales des Mines. V. Série. Tome X. 5 livraison de 1856. Paris. 8vo.—*From the Engineers of l'Ecole des Mines.*
- Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Tenth meeting, held at Albany, N. Y. Aug. 1856. Cambridge 8vo.—*From the Association.*
- Collections of the New York Historical Society. Second Series. Vol. III. Part 1. 1857. 8vo.
- The Dutch at the North Pole and the Dutch in Maine: A Paper read before the New York Historical Society, March 3, 1857, by J. Watts De Peyster, a member of the Society. New York. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society, at the Semi-annual meeting held in Boston, April 29, 1857. Boston. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- Minutes of the Proceedings of the Quarantine Convention, held at Philadelphia by invitation of the Philadelphia Board of Health, May 13–15, 1857. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Committee of Publication.*
- The African Repository. Vol. XXXIII. No. 7. July, 1857. Washington. 8vo.—*From the Am. Colonization Society.*
- The American Journal of Science and Arts. Second Series. Vol. XXIV. No. 70. July, 1857. New Haven. 8vo.—*From Professors Silliman & Dana, Editors.*
- The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. No. LXVII. New Series. July, 1857. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Dr. Isaac Hays, Editor.*
- The Medical News and Library. Vol. XV. No. 175. July, 1857. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*
- Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, showing the progress of the Survey during the year 1855. Washington. 4to.—*From Prof. A. D. Bache, Superintendent.*
- Notice of some Remarks by the late Mr. Hugh Miller, Author of the "Testimony of the Rocks," "The Old Red Sandstone," &c., &c. Philadelphia, 1857. 8vo.—*From W. P. Foulke, Esq.*
- Nieuwe Verhandelingen van het Bataafsch Genootschap der Proefondervindelijke Wijsbegeerte te Rotterdam. IX. Deel, 2 Stuk: X. Deel: XI. Deel: XII. Deel, 1 Stuk. Rotterdam, 1849–1851. 4to.—*From the Batavian Society of Experimental Philosophy.*

An Account of the Smithsonian Institution, its Founder, Building, Operations &c., prepared from the Reports of Prof. Henry to the Regents, and other authentic sources. By William J. Rhees. Washington, 1857. 8vo.—*From the Institution.*

Prof. Trego announced the decease of the Hon. Langdon Cheves, a member of this Society, who died at Columbia, S. C. on the 25th of June last, in the 81st year of his age.

The balloting for candidates for membership being the next business in order, nomination No. 374 was postponed on the written request of Prof. Frazer, and the ballot proceeded with on a remaining nomination.

The committee appointed on the 7th of November last, on the testamentary bequest of M. François André Michaux, and the trusts described in his will, made a report, accompanied by the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the “American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful knowledge,” accepts, with gratitude, the legacy bequeathed by M. F. André Michaux, in his will, dated September 4, 1855, for the purposes therein mentioned, and that the officers of the Society be directed to furnish such proofs as may be necessary to establish the right of the Society to receive the said legacy.

Which resolution was read, considered and adopted.

All other business having been concluded, the ballot box was opened by the presiding officer, who declared that E. SPENCER MILLER, Esq., of Philadelphia, was duly elected a member of the Society.

Stated Meeting, August 21.

Present, nine members.

Judge KANE, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From E. Spencer Miller, dated July 30, 1857, acknowledging the receipt of notice of his election as a member of the Society:—